

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 07244 071134Z

12

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

----- 114202

P 070907Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1437

S E C R E T ISLAMABAD 7244

NODIS

FOR THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PK, US

SUBJ: BHUTTO'S JUNE 13 LETTERS TO THE PRESIDENT  
AND THE SECRETARY

REF: STATE 184791

1. WHEN ONE DEALS WITH A PERSONAGE SUCH AS BHUTTO THERE IS OFTEN A NECESSITY TO ACT WITHOUT AWAITING INSTRUCTIONS. WITHIN AN HOUR AFTER MY RETURN TO PAKISTAN, BHUTTO TELEPHONED TO ARRANGE A DINNER IN OUR HONOR AND IMMEDIATELY LAUNCHED INTO THE SUBJECT OF HIS LETTERS OF JUNE 13 TO YOU AND TO THE PRESIDENT.

2. THE BACKGROUND OF THIS IS THAT I HAD HAD A FRANK TALK ON THIS SUBJECT WITH PAK AMBASSADOR YAQUB KHAN WHILE IN WASHINGTON. HE EMPHATICALLY SHARED MY VIEW THAT THESE LETTERS, WHICH COULD BE INTERPRETED AS AN EFFORT TO TRANSFORM A PRIVATE CONVERSATION BETWEEN YOU AND AZIZ AHMED IN TURKEY INTO A NEW AND ENLARGED SECURITY COMMITMENT OF THE UNITED STATES WAS A TECHNICAL ERROR ON THE PART OF BHUTTO PROMPTED BY AZIZ AHMED (PLEASE PROTECT YAQUB). YAQUB SUBSEQUENTLY RECEIVED A SUMMONS TO RETURN TO ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATELY AND HAD SEEN AND BRIEFED BHUTTO PRIOR TO MY ARRIVAL.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 ISLAMA 07244 071134Z

EM BHUTTO SAID HE WAS SERIOUSLY CONCERNED THAT HIS LETTERS

MAY HAVE PRODUCED A MISUNDERSTANDING WITH YOU AND THE PRESIDENT. HE ASKED THAT I NOTIFY YOU IMMEDIATELY OF HIS GREAT PERSONAL CONCERN LEST THIS SHOULD HAPPEN. HE WENT SO FAR AS TO SAY HE HAD MISGIVINGS ABOUT THE LETTERS FROM THE VERY BEGINNING, BUT HAD HAD TO RELY UPON AZIZ AHMED'S ACCOUNT OF WHAT HAPPENED IN ANKARA AND UPON HIS ACCOUNT THAT THE LETTERS WERE PROPER IN VIEW OF THE CONVERSATION YOU HAD WITH HIM THERE. HE SAID THAT UPON FURTHER REFLECTION HE REALIZED THAT THE LETTERS WERE IMPROPER AND NOT IN ACCORD WITH THE MANNER IN WHICH OUR GOVERNMENT OPERATES UNDER ITS OWN CONSTITUTIONAL SYSTEM. HE SAID HE WAS APPALLED TO HAVE RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT OUR RECORD OF YOUR CONVERSATION WITH AZIZ WAS SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT THAN THAT WHICH HE HAD RECEIVED AND HE HOPED THAT WE WOULD JUST GRACEFULLY FORGET THE WHOLE MATTER.

4. IN AN EFFORT TO RELIEVE BHUTTO'S CONCERN I STRESSED UPON HIM THAT NO REAL DAMAGE HAD BEEN DONE, AND IT MIGHT BE BEST IF I HAD A FURTHER TALK WITH HIM PRIOR TO SENDING ANYTHING TO YOU. IN ANY EVENT, I WAS SURE THAT YOU AND THE PRESIDENT WOULD REALIZE THAT HE HAD HAD TO DEPEND UPON THE REPORT OF OTHERS AS TO WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENED IN ANKARA AS HE, OF COURSE HAD NOT BEEN THERE. I ALSO TOLD HIM YOU HAD TAKEN THE STAFF PAPERS ON THIS MATTER ALONG TO EUROPE ON YOUR TRIP WITH THE PRESIDENT AND IT MIGHT BE BEST FOR ME TO AWAIT FURTHER WORD FROM YOU. HE ACCEPTED THIS SOMEWHAT RELUCTANTLY AND ASKED ME AGAIN LAST NIGHT AT THE DIINER TABLE IF I HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH YOU.

5. IT WOULD SEEM WE HAVE TWO OPTIONS AS TO THE BEST WAY TO LAY THIS AT REST. BHUTTO REALIZES HE RECEIVED BAD ADVICE FROM AZIZ AHMED AND WOULD ABOVE ALL LIKE US JUST TO FORGET THE WHOLE THING. I DO NOT BELIEVE WE CAN ADOPT THIS EASY COURSE AS IT WOULD LEAVE THE RECORD IN AN UNNECESSARILY MESSY STATE, A FACT WHICH I DOUBT BHUTTO HAS THOUGHT ABOUT AS IT HAS NOT BEEN POSSIBLE AS YET FOR ME TO HAVE A GOOD PRIVATE TALK WITH HIM. I BELIEVE HE WOULD AGREE TO WITHDRAWING THE LETTERS IF I ASKED HIM TO BUT THIS WOULD SEEM UNNECESSARILY SEVERE AND HE MIGHT INWARDLY RESENT BEING PLACED IN SUCH AN EMBARRASSING

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 ISLAMA 07244 071134Z

POSITION. THE OTHER COURSE IS FOR YOU TO FOLLOW THROUGH WITH A BRIEF RESPONSE ALONG THE LINES RECOMMENDED TO YOU IN A MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT WHICH REACHED YOU IN EUROPE. THIS WILL TAKE CARE OF THE RECORD AND UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES WILL COME AS NO DISAPPOINTMENT OR SURPRISE TO BHUTTO. WHEN PASSING YOUR RESPONSE TO HIM I WILL, OF COURSE, TALK TO HIM ALSO ALONG THE LINES SUGGESTED IN THE ABOVE REFERENCED MESSAGE TO YOU IN EUROPE, BUT THERE

OBVIOUSLY WOULD NO LONGER BE ANY REASON TO DWELL AT ANY  
LENGTH ON THE MATTER.

6. IT IS IN OUR BEST INTEREST TO GET THIS BEHIND US AS  
QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE AND I HOPE FOR EARLY INSTRUCTIONS  
FROM YOU.  
BYROADE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, CAT-C  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 AUG 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MartinML  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975ISLAMA07244  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** P850104-1504, N750003-0167  
**From:** ISLAMABAD  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750874/aaaacnlw.tel  
**Line Count:** 122  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NODS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** NODIS  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** NODIS  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 184791  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MartinML  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18 AUG 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <18 AUG 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <03 DEC 2003 by MartinML>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BHUTTO'S JUNE 13 LETTERS TO THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PDEV, PK, US, TU, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (FORD, GERALD R), (BHUTTO, ALI), (YAQUB KHAN, SAHABZADA), (AHMED, AZIZ)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006